



Rushen Primary School

Newsletter

June 2022



Queen's Jubilee Celebration 2022



On behalf of the staff and Governors of Rushen Primary School I would like to thank all parents and carers for your patience and support this term, it is much appreciated. Once again, like other Island schools, we have experienced high staff absence, mostly due to Covid as well as for other reasons. We are so glad that we didn't have to send any classes home, although we were very close. Some of our regular supply teachers were also unavailable and this added to the challenge!

Due to these challenges, our June Newsletter was delayed, but here it is!

A highlight of this term has been the continued work on transition for our youngest pupils and families who are joining us in September. Our staff have been visiting feeder nurseries and meeting our new starters as well as parents and carers visiting us in school. They have enjoyed having lunch with their child and also having a 'question and answer' session with staff. Our EYFS new starter parents and carers meeting was also a success and parents had a chance to look at some of the resources that we use to support Early Years learning as well as hearing about the curriculum and the school.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed inviting their parents and carers to come into school to watch them perform their class assembly and the parents also have found the 'stay and learn', 'tour of the school' and school video sessions informative and fun! Thank you for all of your positive feedback. We were determined to go ahead regardless of the staffing situation, as we had been planning this for a long time. We just had to make sure that teacher was in school.

Please see below details about changes to PE kit arrangements

Thank you once again, for your continued support for our school.

Ms Owens
Headteacher

PE - Next Year **NEW PLAN**

We are lucky that we have sports coaches from the MSR team to work with us in school, two days a week (we will let you know which days these will be). In order to maximise the time with the coach and to avoid issues with staffing and changing as children get older, on those days, we have decided to change our plan.

For PE next year, instead of getting changed in school as usual, children should come to school already dressed in their PE kits for MSR days. The following kit should be inexpensive and available from budget shops such as Asda, Primark etc., or from Marks and Spencer (who also have budget lines), for example. If you wish to buy a t-shirt with a logo, black shorts and maroon PE bags, these are available from school.

The kit would be:

- a school t-shirt with logo OR plain white/maroon t-shirt (not football kits)
- **black** shorts
- school jumper or cardigan over their t-shirt.

On cold days, children can wear **black** leggings or joggers/tracksuit bottoms instead of shorts if they wish.

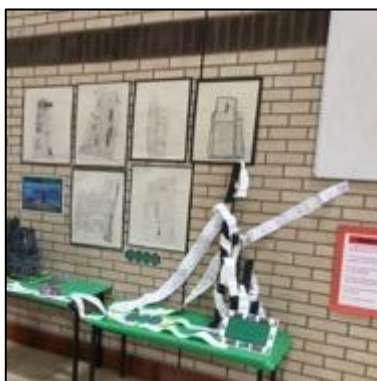
Children can wear trainers on PE days and **black** school shoes on the other days. Please send a PE kit (shorts/t shirt) into school as usual for other PE days or unexpected sessions. **If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.**

Milner's Tower Exhibition

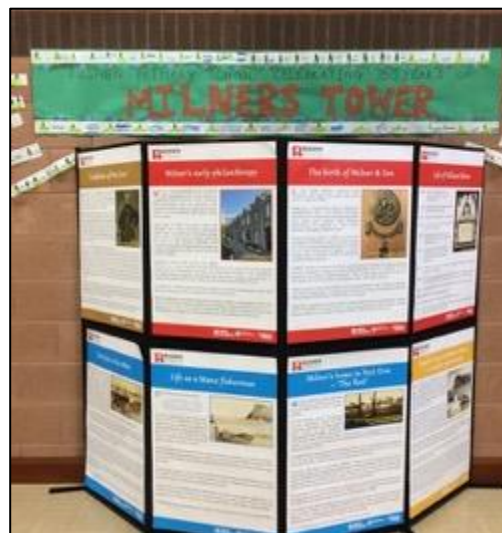
Thank you for all the community support and to all the visitors who were able to attend our whole school 'Milners' Tower' exhibition last term.

We were very pleased to finally be able to hold our exhibition and to invite you into school to view and share in the children's learning. All classes were involved in researching and learning about the tower, its history and its significance to Port Erin. I'm sure you'll agree that the main hall looked fantastic with all this learning on display. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed looking around the exhibits during the school day. We trust that all our visitors enjoyed doing so too!

Thank you to all the various members of our local community who supported the exhibition. A special thank you to Port Erin Heritage Centre who so kindly contributed additional resources and information in support of our school event.







Transition New intake

Our Early Years staff have welcomed our new starters for September with a varied programme of transition. Following visits by our Early Years teachers and support staff to all local pre-school settings, we have been inviting new starters into school to get used to the classroom and outdoor environments and to meet the adults who may be teaching them.

Year 6

- Year 6 were invited to a performance of 'Mathilda' at CRHS and they enjoyed the show. We are proud to say that their behaviour was impeccable!
- Our Year 6 pupils have visited Castle Rushen High School for two induction days on the 30th June/1st July
- Year 6 Hoodies were presented to our Leavers in plenty of time for them to wear them in school.



Buildings and works updates

We have several building upgrades and projects currently underway and during the next few months.

1. Roof replacement rolling programme

- ✓ The final section of the roof on the old building is currently being replaced and is on schedule. The building looks fantastic from the road with a new roof and newly painted. It is important that we invest in our old building as this section of the school is coming up to its 100th anniversary in a few years - it was built in 1926.
- ✓ The final section of flat roof on the KS1 building should hopefully be replaced this summer - plans are always subject to change. The rest of the flat roof has been replaced and this has been a significant improvement as this part of the building is now much warmer. A very deep insulation has been installed and we have noticed the impact.

2. Painting – classrooms

- ✓ Two classrooms in the KS1 building are to be painted

3. Window blinds

- ✓ Window blinds will be fitted in Room 1 and 2.

School Commonwealth Sports Day 2022

All children were sorted into mixed age teams to represent a country in the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Games are scheduled to take place in Birmingham this year. An opening ceremony took place on the playground where each team paraded behind their flag.

Fun, novelty team activities took place during the morning and into the afternoon and sprint races for year groups, took place as the final event.

Large numbers of parents attended to support their children and many enjoyed relaxing in the sun, on the grass.



Some Flags of the Commonwealth				
Bangladesh	New Zealand	Canada	Saint Lucia	Ghana
				
Cyprus	Malaysia	South Africa	Malta	Samoa
				





Netball Festival

The team that attended the Netball Festival were very motivated. They have thoroughly enjoyed Netball Club this year and as always, they were a credit to our school. Everyone played well and were fabulous sportsmen/women – very polite and put 100% effort in to every game. We came joint 5th with Victoria Road School but the scores really didn't reflect our game play at all. Well done everybody!



Millennium Football Competition

On Saturday 25th June 2022 Rushen Primary School entered two teams of Year 5 and 6 children in the Millennium tournament at Union Mills Football Club.

We played eight games in the group stages of the tournament, but were up against some very strong teams from other schools.

They all played some fantastic football and had some remarkable saves in goal. All who took part enjoyed their day even though we did not proceed to the next stages of the competition.

Thank you to all the parents who supported us and to Mr. Hawkins and Mr Steriopulos for coaching on the day.



Queen's Baton Relay

Members of the council recently represented our school at the Queen's Baton Relay held at the NSC athletics track. This was a celebratory, fun event held in honour of both the Queen's Jubilee and as part of the lead-up to this year's Commonwealth Games. Primary school children from across the island were involved.

Our pupils showed great strength of character even before arriving at the event by containing their excitement and patiently awaiting transport!

On our arrival, and without a moment to spare, they proudly ran with the mascot whilst challenging themselves to keep up with a member of the Isle of Man athletics team! Having completed their part in the relay, they were very excited to have their photographs taken with the Commonwealth baton itself! Congratulations to the pupils involved, all of whom acted as great role models for our school.

Thank you too to those parents who patiently awaited our arrival and stayed on to cheer and support the children involved.



Y5 Trip to Rushen Abbey

As part of our RE curriculum on Christianity our Year 5 children went on a trip to Rushen Abbey.

Learning objectives for the day included:

- the history of local churches
- values, beliefs, customs and practices
- how the beliefs of Christians influence their actions
- where did the Christian Bible come from?



Manx Farmers Union Visit

Mrs Bousfield and Sandpiper Class organised for the MFU to visit school and share the new Manx Countryside Code with us.

They joined us in assembly while we read the book that they have written and answered questions. Then the characters in the book, Jelly and Oof, a calf and a lamb visited us. The children met them and gave them a stroke. A lovely day was had by all...



They sent us a lovely letter following their visit and donated a book for each child.

Dear Ms Owens, Mrs Bousfield and all of the staff and pupils of Rushen Primary School

Thank you so much for inviting us to attend Rushen School and introduce you all to Jelly and Oof, and talk about the countryside code. We had such a lovely time meeting you all, as did Jelly and Oof - we think they enjoyed the attention a lot and are now acting like celebrities!

I hope that you will all like the book we have written, thank you very much for the presentation in the morning. We were blown away with how engaged and fantastic all of the pupils were, and we were so pleased to be part of your day. We would be happy to deliver some more books if you do not have enough, and we are writing a small piece for the Biosphere newsletter.

Timing our first ever visit with Jelly and Oof during Biosphere week was perfect and we can't thank you all enough for looking after us and the animals so well.

Once again thank you, we hope to visit you all again soon.

Best wishes

Sarah, Carolyn, and Paula (and Jelly and Oof!)

Everyone a Leader

A group of our Year 6 pupils decided to plan an event to raise money for a local charity, 'Hospice Isle of Man'. The team wrote about what happened:

'The fundraiser was an opportunity to show our leadership in our community and we decided to pick Hospice as the charity, as they help people in need and do all treatment free of charge. We had a few setbacks including: venue, staff and availability. We did a carnival event including refreshments, a raffle, selling donated items and games. The day went pretty smoothly but we were always busy. We raised £313.38. We would like to thank everyone that came and everyone that donated. We are very grateful.'



Free School Meals September 2022

Free school meals must be applied for annually. If you believe your child will be entitled to receive free meals from September 2022, complete an application online at <https://www.gov.im/categories/education-training-and-careers/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-free-school-travel-application-form/>

Application forms to be submitted by the end of term to ensure meals and travel cards are in place for the first day of term.

Dinner Money

Please could everybody ensure money owing on their child's Parent Pay account is paid before the end of term. Outstanding credits on the accounts of Year 6 children will be reimbursed via Parent Pay on the last day of term.